GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3881
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2017
Legal Consultants
Phoole Sushree Sadhvi Savitri Bai

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the service rules pertaining to the legal consultants working in Hindi or regional languages in the legislative department of the Ministry of Law & Justice are different based on languages;
(b) if so, whether such discrimination on the basis of languages is a violation of the Article 14 of the Constitution;
(c) if so, whether the concerned departmentally related Parliamentary Committee in their report in the year 2000 recommended to cover the officials working in Hindi or regional languages in the Indian legal services on the lines of the officials working in English language;
(d) if so, the details of action taken by the department after a lapse of 16 years; and
(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

ANSWER

MINSTER OF STATE FOR LAW & JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) : Yes, Madam. The rules pertaining to the Legislative Counsels working in Hindi and regional languages in Legislative Department of Ministry of Law and Justice are different as per their work profile which is based on expertise in regional language.

(b): No, Madam. The appointment of Legislative Counsels in the Department requires knowledge of their respective regional language as per recruitment rules and job profile.
(c): Yes, Madam.
(d)&(e): The recommendation made by the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee, as contained in its 61st Report was examined by the Government and Action Taken Report was submitted by the Government wherein the Government concluded that "duties and responsibilities of officers of the Indian Legal Service are far more onerous and there is hardly any comparison with officers doing work in Hindi and other languages. In view of the aforesaid, it is considered not desirable to include the Officers of the Hindi and the regional languages side of the Official Languages Wing in the Indian Legal Service. Further the recruitment rules framed for the Officers of the Official Languages Wing are in consonance with the guidelines of the Government." Based on the comments of the Government, the Parliamentary Standing Committee made the following observation in para 11.2 of its 69th Report which was laid on the Table of Parliament (Lok Sabha) on 17.04.2001:
"The Committee notes the explanation offered by Government"